

Spring 1-15-1999

ENG 1002C-031: Literature and Composition

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1002-031

Syllabus: English 1002-031


Composition and Literature

Michael Kuo

MWF, 1:00 to 1:50

General Info Books& Materials Policies Grading**How to Contact Me** **Other office hours by appointment.****Office Location: Coleman 315G****Office Phone: 581-6301****Home Phone: 348-5529****E-mail: cfmfk1@eiu.edu**

General Information

Course Description: A writing course designed to improve skills in critical

English at Eastern: At a minimum, you are be required to pass this course, and English 1001C, which you already did if you're taking this class. Since 1001C is a prerequisite for 1002C, most students take 1002C in the spring semester of their first year, as you are. 1002C is a prerequisite for all other English classes. Many of you will also be required to take 3001, Advanced Composition, in your third year. You will also have the option to take almost any upper-division English course as an elective -- for example, Creative Writing -- after you have passed 1002C.

After you have taken 60 hours of courses, you'll need to take the Writing Competency Exam. Eastern will not let you graduate until you have passed this test. The university is also kind enough to charge you \$10.00 every time you take the test. You'll have to do some written exercises, and write an essay on some topic that will probably be stupid. When I took it in 1984, I had to write an essay on what the state animal should be.

Eastern's "Writing Across the Curriculum" policy, in theory, means that you will be required to do a lot of writing in many of your classes outside the English Department. Eastern implemented this policy several years ago in an attempt to make sure students improve their writing, regardless of their area of study. This is probably a good idea; when I worked as a banker I had a boss who had a Business degree from Eastern and bragged that, outside of English 1001 and 1002, he never had to write a paper at Eastern. He lost his job as bank president soon thereafter, partly because he was unable to express himself in writing beyond the 10th. grade level.

Books & Materials

*A Pocket Style Manual**The Bedford Introduction to Drama**Bedford: An Introduction*

Every: An Introduction
The Story and Its Writer
Frankenstein

Computer disks: You'll need to buy five formatted 3 1/2" floppy disks (HD or DS DD) for IBM compatibles.

Your books should be available at the textbook library.

Policies

Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please notify me and contact the Coordinator of the Office of disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Attendance and Participation

Attendance is required. I will reduce your course grade if attendance becomes a problem, on the following scale: two to three unexcused absences -- one letter grade; four to six unexcused absences -- two letter grades; more than six unexcused absences--no credit. I will also reduce your course grade by as much as one letter grade if you do

Plagiarism

... will not be tolerated. The English Department's official plagiarism statement is: "Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism -- 'The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work' (Random House Dictionary of the English Language) -- has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of NC for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office."

Late Work

... will not be accepted except by previous arrangement.

E-Mail & Internet Browsing Skills

I will not teach you, in class, how to use e-mail or how to browse the Internet with Netscape or Internet Explorer. However, you are required to master these skills! If it is all new to you, ask for help.

Web Pages

All written assignments must be produced in Hypertext Mark-up Language (HTML) as Web pages. Don't worry; it's easy. We will learn to make Web pages with Netscape Communicator and FrontPage Express in class. You must turn in your work on disks, using the file names specified in each assignment. I WILL NOT GRADE FILES THAT ARE NOT NAMED CORRECTLY.

Changes to Syllabus

Everything on this syllabus is subject to change, providing we agree. The rules for changing the syllabus are half dictatorial and half democratic; I must vote 'yes' for a change, and more than half of you must vote 'yes'. That way, if you all decide to change my name to Mickey Mouse, it won't happen. Conversely,

vote yes. That way, if you an decide to change my name to Mickey Mouse, it won't happen. Conversely, if I decide to make all your papers 20 pages long, it won't happen, either. Any changes will be posted to the syllabus on the Internet. Though I will announce these changes when and if they occur, you are responsible for knowing about them.

Pornographic Images

Any idiot who pops up dirty pictures on the screen in our classroom gets an F for the course. Not fair? Too strict? Not within my prerogatives? I'll let you process the grade appeal. In the meantime, my tolerance for sexual harassment is zero.

Playing Solitaire, Surfing the Web, Etc.

I will expect you to use class time for working on assignments or, if we're discussing something, for paying attention and taking notes. If you're not able to handle this, I will ask you to leave. If the problem persists, I'll reduce your grade.

Grading

Assignments

Short Paper, 800 words, due February 1, 10 points.

Mid-Term (essay questions only), March 3, 15 points.

First Draft of Long Paper, 1500 words, March 3, 10 points.

Library of Literary Links Contribution, April 7, 15 points.

Final Exam (essay questions only), finals week according to schedule, 15 points.

Final Draft of Long Paper, 2000 words, due the day of the final, 20 points.

Class minutes, due twice by arrangement, 5 points.

Quiz Gift, 10 points (see below).

(Topics for the papers will be assigned as we go.)

Quiz Gift

I am giving you 15 points for quizzes, right now (January 13, 1999). Merry Christmas! Good job on the quizzes! You can hold on to all 15 points by passing all the quizzes we have this semester. Quizzes will be at the beginning of class when a new assignment has been made. You'll have 30 seconds to complete the quiz, which will start one minute after the top of the hour or one minute after I arrive, whichever comes first. NO EXCEPTIONS! EVER! The quizzes will be easy, if you've done your homework. Like, if the assignment was *The Empire Strikes Back*, you might be asked "Who is Luke's father?" I will grade quizzes on the spot. If your answer is not satisfactory (my call), I'll ask you to leave, skip you in the minutes rotation if it's your day to take minutes (not make-up-able), and take away 2.5 of your 10 quiz gift points.

Regardless of grade, you must turn in all assignments to get credit for the course.

Class Minutes

Twice this semester, you must take notes for the class and post them on the Internet within three days of the class meeting. I will do it the first time or so, so you get an idea of what I'm expecting--but if you simply take good notes (*not* just on what I said, but also on the major ideas of others in the class) and represent what happened fairly accurately, you'll do fine. It's also your chance to "revise and extend" your own thoughts and ideas. You will make the minutes by entering them in the "Make Pages" part of this Web site, but if you want to use copy and paste, you can type them up in MS Word or Wordperfect or whatever.

Final Grade Calculation

90 - 100 points: A

80 - 89 points: B

70 - 79 points: C

Less than 70 points: No Credit.

Note: between February 9 and February 20 you will have a substitute teacher. Attendance is still required, as is courtesy.

Note: Writing will be graded on the basis of the EIU English Department Standards, with the following exceptions: Workshop postings, Minutes, Quizzes, and E-Mail.